

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A semiconductor integrated circuit comprising:

a reference potential conversion circuit which is supplied with $n-1$ (n is 2 or larger natural number)

5 external reference potentials (V_{REF1} , V_{REF2} , ..., V_{REFn-1}) and converts external reference potentials to generate $n-1$ internal reference potentials ($V_{REFint1}$,

$V_{REFint2}$, ..., $V_{REFintn-1}$) differing from external

reference potentials and having a relationship with

10 regard to the $n-1$ external reference potentials, and

an input circuit which is supplied with said internal reference potential ($V_{REFint1}$, $V_{REFint2}$, ..., $V_{REFintn-1}$) as reference potentials, is supplied with n values of data signals expressed by potentials, and

15 compares a data signal and a reference potential to output a determination result.

2. The semiconductor integrated circuit according

to claim 1, wherein said relationship between said

external reference potentials (V_{REF1} , V_{REF2} , ..., V_{REFn-1}) and said internal reference potentials

($V_{REFint1}$, $V_{REFint2}$, ..., $V_{REFintn-1}$) is expressed by

$V_{REFintn-1} = V_{REFn-1} + A$ (n is 2 or larger natural

number and A is a rational number except 0).

3. The semiconductor integrated circuit according

25 to claim 1, wherein said relationship between said

external reference potentials (V_{REF1} , V_{REF2} , ..., V_{REFn-1}) and said internal reference potentials

(VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is expressed by
VREFintn-1 = B × VREFn-1 (n is 2 or larger natural
number and B is a rational number except 0).

4. The semiconductor integrated circuit according
5 to claim 1, wherein said relationship between said
external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ...,
VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials
(VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is expressed by
VREFintn-1 = C × VREFn-1 + D (n is 2 or larger natural
10 number and, C and D are rational numbers except 0).

5. The semiconductor integrated circuit according
to claim 1, further comprising a storage circuit for
holding data of a plurality of bits, and wherein
said relationship between said external reference
15 potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said
internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ...,
VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of
bits stored in said storage circuit.

6. The semiconductor integrated circuit according
20 to claim 5, wherein

 said storage circuit for holding data of a
 plurality of bits is a one-time programmable storage
 circuit, and

 said relationship between said external reference
25 potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said
internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ...,
VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of

bits stored in said storage circuit.

7. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 6, wherein

5 said storage circuit includes a laser beam blown type fuse for specifying data of a plurality of bits to be held depending on whether a laser beam disconnects the fuse, and wherein

10 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said laser beam blown type fuse.

8. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 6, wherein

15 said storage circuit includes an electric current blown type fuse for specifying data of a plurality of bits to be held depending on whether an electric current disconnects the fuse, and

20 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said electric current blown type fuse.

9. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 6, wherein

25 said storage circuit includes a dielectric film breakdown type fuse for specifying data of a plurality

of bits to be held depending on whether a voltage breakdowns a dielectric film of the dielectric film breakdown type fuse, and

5 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said dielectric film breakdown type fuse.

10 10. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 5, wherein

 said storage circuit for holding data of a plurality of bits is a reprogrammable storage circuit, and

15 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said storage circuit.

20 11. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 10, wherein

 said storage circuit includes a semiconductor memory circuit for specifying data of a plurality of bits to be held, and

25 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ...,

VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said semiconductor memory circuit.

12. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 11, wherein

5 said storage circuit includes a register for specifying data of a plurality of bits to be held, and
 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ...,
10 VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said register.

13. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 1, further comprising a first storage circuit for holding data of a plurality of bits, and a second storage circuit for holding data of a plurality of bits, and wherein

 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said first storage circuit or said second storage circuit.

25 14. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 13, further comprising a selection circuit for selecting said first storage circuit or said second storage circuit, and wherein

 said relationship between said external reference

potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said
internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ...,
VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of
bits stored in said first storage circuit or said
5 second storage circuit selected by said selection
circuit.

15. The semiconductor integrated circuit according
to claim 1, further comprising a selection circuit for
selecting said first storage circuit or said second
10 storage circuit, and wherein

15 said relationship between said external reference
potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said
internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ...,
VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of
bits stored in said first storage circuit or said
second storage circuit selected by said selection
circuit.

20 16. The semiconductor integrated circuit according
to claim 5, wherein said input circuit compares an
input data signal with the reference potential having
n-1 values at the timing of a clock signal's leading
and trailing edge or either edge and outputs a
comparison result.

25 17. The semiconductor integrated circuit according
to claim 13, wherein said input circuit compares an
input data signal with the reference potential having
n-1 values at the timing of a clock signal's leading

and trailing edge or either edge and outputs a comparison result.

18. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 14, wherein said input circuit compares an input data signal with the reference potential having $n-1$ values at the timing of a clock signal's leading and trailing edge or either edge and outputs a comparison result.

19. A semiconductor apparatus system, comprising:
10 a motherboard including an input/output terminal section and a data signal line and an external reference signal line connected to this input/output terminal section, and

15 a plurality of semiconductor integrated circuits which is mounted on said motherboard and includes a reference potential conversion circuit connected to said external reference signal line, supplied with $n-1$ (n is 2 or larger natural number) external reference potentials ($V_{REF1}, V_{REF2}, \dots, V_{REFn-1}$), and generating other potentials ($V_{REFint1}, V_{REFint2}, \dots, V_{REFintn-1}$)
20 differing from said external reference potentials and further includes an input circuit supplied with output potentials ($V_{REFint1}, V_{REFint2}, \dots, V_{REFintn-1}$) from said reference potential conversion circuit as reference potentials, supplied with a data signal from
25 said data signal line, comparing the input data signal with reference potentials having $n-1$ values for

determination, and generating a determination result.

20. The semiconductor apparatus system according to claim 19, wherein

5 said semiconductor integrated circuit further comprises a storage circuit for holding data of a plurality of bits, and

10 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said storage circuit.

21. The semiconductor apparatus system according to claim 19, wherein

15 said semiconductor integrated circuit further comprises a first storage circuit for holding data of a plurality of bits, and a second storage circuit for holding data of a plurality of bits, and

20 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said first storage circuit or said second storage circuit.

25 22. The semiconductor integrated circuit according to claim 19, wherein said semiconductor integrated circuit further comprises a selection circuit for selecting said first storage circuit or said second

storage circuit, and

5 said relationship between said external reference potentials (VREF1, VREF2, ..., VREFn-1) and said internal reference potentials (VREFint1, VREFint2, ..., VREFintn-1) is changed based on data of a plurality of bits stored in said first storage circuit or said second storage circuit selected by said selection circuit.

00000000000000000000000000000000